



**WATER EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**

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May 12, 2005

Nick Pinhey, Director of Public Works
City of Tracy
Boyd Service Center
520 Tracy Boulevard
Tracy, CA 95376

Dear Mr. Pinhey,

Thank you for contacting the Water Education Foundation about working with the City of Tracy on a pollution prevention education project. We are excited about the opportunity to work with you to increase awareness and education about this important topic.

For more than 25 years, the Water Education Foundation (WEF) has been a unique resource for unbiased information about water issues. A nonprofit, impartial organization, the Foundation maintains a strong commitment to high standards of objectivity and balance in all of its publications and programs, earning respect from all sides of the debate over water in California and the Southwest.

The Foundation's goal is to explain the complexities of water issues from all viewpoints so that people can make better informed decisions about one of our most critical resources. The Foundation's programs and publications reach a broad audience: policy-makers and leading stakeholders in the agricultural, environmental and urban water groups; members of the media, who assist our efforts to educate the general public; and teachers and school children and their families.

Our proposal to the City of Tracy is for funding to support two (2) Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) *Healthy Water, Healthy People* workshops and the distribution of water pollution prevention educational materials. We are requesting support in the amount of \$20,000 for this project, which could be completed within a year from date of award. The specifics of the proposal follow.

Proposal

We propose to conduct two (2) Project WET *Healthy Water, Healthy People* workshops for twenty (20) educators per workshop. To compliment this effort, we will distribute two hundred (200) copies of the *No-Know* board game and one thousand (1000) Preventing Pollution slide cards.

Project WET is a national, interdisciplinary water science and education program for formal and non-formal educators of K-12 students. Since the inception of Project WET in 1984, the program has attracted global interest. Project WET is used by water educators in Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, South Africa, and by the Peace Corps. The goal of the Project WET program is to facilitate and promote the awareness, appreciation, knowledge, and stewardship of water resources through the development and dissemination of classroom ready teaching aids and the establishment of state and internationally sponsored Project WET Programs.

Developed, field-tested and reviewed by over 600 educators and resource managers, the program has reached millions of students nationwide, (over five million in California alone in the last six years). The Project WET activities promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills and help provide young people with the knowledge and experience they will need to make informed decisions regarding water resource management.

Project WET lessons are fully correlated to the California Department of Education's Subject Area Standards, making it very popular with classroom teachers. University methods professors of pre-service teachers use Project WET as part of their syllabus, citing its good science and high quality pedagogy.

The *Healthy Water, Healthy People* workshops train middle and high school educators to integrate interactive and meaningful lessons on water quality and watershed management into their lessons. The Foundation will conduct two (2) workshops for twenty (20) participants each. Each of the 40 secondary teachers see about 150 students per year, so **the total of middle and high school students receiving water conservation lessons will be approximately 6,000.**

Because of the competing demands and budgetary constraints faced by educators, we have found that it is very important to offer incentives and free materials to teachers who participate in the trainings. Therefore, a significant component of the budget is being dedicated for this purpose.

Workshop participants will receive the *Healthy Water, Healthy People* educators guide that includes twenty-five interactive classroom activities. Each activity is designed to link water quality concepts to real-life experiences and includes a mechanism for assessing learning and suggestions for expanded investigation of each topic.

To compliment the classroom education component, the Foundation will distribute water pollution prevention materials within the City of Tracy. The Foundation will distribute two hundred (200) copies of the *No-Know* dice game. The game is an attractive, colorful cardboard mounted board game that teaches children about the source of their drinking water, the pollutants water may encounter as it moves through the watershed and ways to avoid contributing to nonpoint source pollution. In the game, players travel the Dirty Old River, discovering along the way agricultural, residential and industrial practices that can lead to nonpoint source pollution.

The Foundation will also distribute one thousand (1,000) copies of the Preventing Pollution Slide Card. The 4x9 inch card, in "slide guide" format, explains how common household products can pollute surface water and groundwater supplies. Many common household, yard and workshops products, which are hazardous to the water supply, are listed with information on how to dispose of them. Non-hazardous alternatives to these products are suggested.

We view this as an exciting opportunity for the City of Tracy to support a water pollution education effort aimed at educators and students whose effects will be far reaching. We look forward to having the opportunity to work with you on this important project.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this proposal or would like any additional information. I can be reached at (916) 444-6240 or by email at rsudman@watereducation.org.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Rita Schmidt Sudman
Executive Director

Healthy Water, Healthy People Workshops & Distribution of Educational Materials

Proposal to City of Tracy

Timeline for Completion of Project

Personnel Expenses

	Hours	Rate	Total
Executive Director	5	100.00	500
Education Director	32	75.00	2,400
Program Assistant	10	50.00	500
Office Manager	20	50.00	1,000
			<u>\$4,400</u>

	Qty	Rate	
Direct Expenses			
HWHP Guides	40	25	1,000
Participant Stipends	40	150	6,000
Lunch	40	10	400
Incentive Items	40	15	600
Evaluation Forms	40	0.07	3
Postage			300
Travel (miles)	300	0.38	114
Board Games	200	15	3,000
Slide Cards	1000	0.85	850
			<u>\$12,267</u>

SUBTOTAL: \$16,667

Indirect Costs

IDC @ 20% **\$3,333**

TOTAL: \$20,000

